

**CLAIM AMENDMENTS**

Claims 1 - 20 (cancelled)

21. (currently amended) A base station that supports communications with a plurality of subscriber units in a CDMA wireless communication system, the base station comprising:

an antenna;

a radio frequency interface coupled to the antenna;

a spreader/despreader coupled to the radio frequency interface;

a coder/decoder coupled to the spreader/despreader;

processing circuitry coupled to the coder/decoder;

memory coupled to the processing circuitry;

a base station controller interface coupled to the processing circuitry; and

the base station supporting a power control ~~channel comprising~~ signal including:

a first power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a first reverse link common channel; [[and]]

a second power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a second reverse link common channel, the second power control/inhibit bit stream offset in relation to the first power control/inhibit bit stream by a fixed offset;

a third power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a third reverse link common channel, wherein the third power control/inhibit bit stream is offset from the first power control/inhibit bit stream by another fixed offset; and

a fourth power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a fourth reverse link common channel, wherein the fourth control/inhibit bit stream is offset from the first power control/inhibit bit by yet another fixed offset.

Claims 22-33. (cancelled)

34. (currently amended) A subscriber unit that supports communications with a base station in a CDMA wireless communication system, the subscriber unit comprising:

an antenna;

a radio frequency interface coupled to the antenna;

a spreader/despreader coupled to the radio frequency interface;

a coder/decoder coupled to the spreader/despreader;

processing circuitry coupled to the coder/decoder;

memory coupled to the processing circuitry;

a user interface coupled to the processing circuitry; and

the subscriber unit decoding and processing a power control signal to extract a first power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a first reverse link common channel, the power control signal ~~comprising~~ including:

a first power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a first reverse link common channel; [[and]]

a second power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a second reverse link common channel, the second power control/inhibit bit stream offset in relation to the first power control/inhibit bit stream by a fixed offset;

a third power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a third reverse link common channel, the third power control/inhibit bit stream is offset from the first power control/inhibit bit by another fixed offset; and

a fourth power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a fourth reverse link common channel, the fourth control/inhibit bit stream is offset from the first power control/inhibit bit by yet another fixed offset.

Claims 35-48. (cancelled)

49. (currently amended) A method for transmitting power control bits from a base station to a plurality of subscriber units in a code division multiple access wireless communication system, the common power control bits causing the subscriber units to manage their reverse link transmissions on a plurality of reverse link common channels, the method comprising:

determining a first power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a first reverse link common channel;

determining a second power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a second reverse link common channel;

determining a third power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a third reverse link common channel;

determining a fourth power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a fourth reverse link common channel;

combining the first power control/inhibit bit stream with the second power control/inhibit bit stream, the second power control/inhibit bit stream, the third power control/inhibit bit stream, and the fourth power control/inhibit bit stream into a common bit stream such that the second power control/inhibit bit stream is offset in relation to the first power control/inhibit bit stream by a fixed offset, that the third power control/inhibit bit stream is offset from the first power control/inhibit bit by another fixed offset; and the fourth power control/inhibit bit stream is offset from the first power control/inhibit bit by yet another fixed offset; and

transmitting the combined bit stream on a forward link channel.

Claims 50-60. (cancelled)

61. (new) A base station that supports communications with a plurality of subscriber units in a CDMA wireless communication system, the base station comprising:

- an antenna;

- a radio frequency interface coupled to the antenna;

- a spreader/despreader coupled to the radio frequency interface;

- a coder/decoder coupled to the spreader/despreader;

- processing circuitry coupled to the coder/decoder;

- memory coupled to the processing circuitry;

- a base station controller interface coupled to the processing circuitry; and

the base station supporting a power control signal including:

- a first power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a first reverse link common channel;

- a second power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a second reverse link common channel, the second power control/inhibit bit stream offset in relation to the first power control/inhibit bit stream by a pseudo-random offset;

- a third power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a third reverse link common channel; and

- a fourth power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a fourth reverse link common channel, wherein the fourth control/inhibit bit stream is offset from the third power control/inhibit bit by a fixed offset.

62. (new) A base station that supports communications with a plurality of subscriber units in a CDMA wireless communication system, the base station comprising:

- an antenna;

- a radio frequency interface coupled to the antenna;

- a spreader/despreader coupled to the radio frequency interface;

- a coder/decoder coupled to the spreader/despreader;

- processing circuitry coupled to the coder/decoder;

- memory coupled to the processing circuitry;

- a base station controller interface coupled to the processing circuitry; and

the base station supporting a power control channel comprising:

- a first power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a first reverse link common channel;

- a second power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a second reverse link common channel, the second power control/inhibit bit stream offset by a pseudo-random offset in relation to the first power control/inhibit bit stream;

- a third power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a third reverse link common channel; and

- a fourth power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a fourth reverse link common channel, wherein the fourth control/inhibit bit stream is offset from the third power control/inhibit bit by another pseudo-random offset.

63. (new) A base station that supports communications with a plurality of subscriber units in a CDMA wireless communication system, the base station comprising:

- an antenna;

- a radio frequency interface coupled to the antenna;

- a spreader/despreader coupled to the radio frequency interface;

- a coder/decoder coupled to the spreader/despreader;

- processing circuitry coupled to the coder/decoder;

- memory coupled to the processing circuitry;

- a base station controller interface coupled to the processing circuitry; and

the base station supporting a power control channel comprising:

- a first power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a first reverse link common channel;

- a second power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a second reverse link common channel, the second power control/inhibit bit stream offset in relation to the first power control/inhibit bit stream;

- a third power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a third reverse link common channel; and

- a fourth power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a fourth reverse link common channel; and

- wherein:

- a starting bit position is pseudo-randomly selected from a plurality of available bit positions; and

- the first, second, third and fourth power control/inhibit bit streams are pseudo-randomly positioned based upon the starting bit position.

64. (new) A subscriber unit that supports communications with a base station in a CDMA wireless communication system, the subscriber unit comprising:

- an antenna;

- a radio frequency interface coupled to the antenna;

- a spreader/despreader coupled to the radio frequency interface;

- a coder/decoder coupled to the spreader/despreader;

- processing circuitry coupled to the coder/decoder;

- memory coupled to the processing circuitry;

- a user interface coupled to the processing circuitry; and

the subscriber unit decoding and processing a power control signal to extract a first power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a first reverse link common channel, the power control signal includes:

- a first power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a first reverse link common channel;

- a second power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a second reverse link common channel, the second power control/inhibit bit stream offset in relation to the first power control/inhibit bit stream by a pseudo-random offset;

- a third power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a third reverse link common channel; and

- a fourth power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a fourth reverse link common channel, the fourth control/inhibit bit stream is offset from the third power control/inhibit bit by a fixed offset.

65. (new) A subscriber unit that supports communications with a base station in a CDMA wireless communication system, the subscriber unit comprising:

- an antenna;

- a radio frequency interface coupled to the antenna;

- a spreader/despreader coupled to the radio frequency interface;

- a coder/decoder coupled to the spreader/despreader;

- processing circuitry coupled to the coder/decoder;

- memory coupled to the processing circuitry;

- a user interface coupled to the processing circuitry; and

the subscriber unit decoding and processing a power control signal to extract a first power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a first reverse link common channel, the power control signal includes:

- a first power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a first reverse link common channel;

- a second power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a second reverse link common channel, the second power control/inhibit bit stream offset in relation to the first power control/inhibit bit stream by a pseudo-random offset;

- a third power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a third reverse link common channel; and

- a fourth power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a fourth reverse link common channel, the fourth control/inhibit bit stream is offset from the third power control/inhibit bit by another pseudo-random offset.



66. (new) A subscriber unit that supports communications with a base station in a CDMA wireless communication system, the subscriber unit comprising:

- an antenna;

- a radio frequency interface coupled to the antenna;

- a spreader/despreader coupled to the radio frequency interface;

- a coder/decoder coupled to the spreader/despreader;

- processing circuitry coupled to the coder/decoder;

- memory coupled to the processing circuitry;

- a user interface coupled to the processing circuitry; and

the subscriber unit decoding and processing a power control signal to extract a first power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a first reverse link common channel, the power control signal includes:

- a first power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a first reverse link common channel;

- a second power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a second reverse link common channel, the second power control/inhibit bit stream offset in relation to the first power control/inhibit bit stream;

- a third power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a third reverse link common channel; and

- a fourth power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a fourth reverse link common channel; and

wherein:

- a starting bit position is pseudo-randomly selected from a plurality of available bit positions; and

- the first, second, third and fourth power control/inhibit bit streams are pseudo-randomly positioned based upon the starting bit position.

67. (new) A method for transmitting power control bits from a base station to a plurality of subscriber units in a code division multiple access wireless communication system, the common power control bits causing the subscriber units to manage their reverse link transmissions on a plurality of reverse link common channels, the method comprising:

- determining a first power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a first reverse link common channel;

- determining a second power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a second reverse link common channel;

- determining a third power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a third reverse link common channel;

- determining a fourth power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a fourth reverse link common channel;

- combining the first power control/inhibit bit stream, the second power control/inhibit bit stream, the third power control/inhibit bit stream, and the fourth power control/inhibit bit stream into a common bit stream such that the second power control/inhibit bit stream is offset in relation to the first power control/inhibit bit stream by a pseudo-random offset, and that the fourth power control/inhibit bit stream is offset from the third power control/inhibit bit by a fixed offset; and

- transmitting the combined bit stream on a forward link channel.

68. (new) A method for transmitting power control bits from a base station to a plurality of subscriber units in a code division multiple access wireless communication system, the common power control bits causing the subscriber units to manage their reverse link transmissions on a plurality of reverse link common channels, the method comprising:

- determining a first power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a first reverse link common channel;

- determining a second power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a second reverse link common channel;

- determining a third power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a third reverse link common channel;

- determining a fourth power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a fourth reverse link common channel;

- combining the first power control/inhibit bit stream, the second power control/inhibit bit stream, the third power control/inhibit bit stream, and the fourth power control/inhibit bit stream into a common bit stream such that the second power control/inhibit bit stream is offset in relation to the first power control/inhibit bit stream by a pseudo-random offset, and that the fourth power control/inhibit bit stream is offset from the third power control/inhibit bit by another pseudo-random offset; and

- transmitting the combined bit stream on a forward link channel.

69. (new) A method for transmitting power control bits from a base station to a plurality of subscriber units in a code division multiple access wireless communication system, the common power control bits causing the subscriber units to manage their reverse link transmissions on a plurality of reverse link common channels, the method comprising:

- determining a first power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a first reverse link common channel;

- determining a second power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a second reverse link common channel;

- determining a third power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a third reverse link common channel;

- determining a fourth power control/inhibit bit stream that corresponds to a fourth reverse link common channel;

- combining the first power control/inhibit bit stream, the second power control/inhibit bit stream, the third power control/inhibit bit stream, and the fourth power control/inhibit bit stream into a common bit stream, wherein:

- a starting bit position is pseudo-randomly selected from a plurality of available bit positions; and

- the first, second, third and fourth power control/inhibit bit streams are pseudo-randomly positioned based upon the starting bit position; and

- transmitting the combined bit stream on a forward link channel.